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EXAMINER	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/816,249	OKABE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	JONATHAN R. BECKLEY	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *31 March 2004*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *31 March 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *02/27/2006*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. **Claims 1 - 20** are **rejected** under **35 U.S.C. 102(b)** as being anticipated by **Barry et al. (Patent Number 5,859,711)**.

3. Regarding **Claim 1, Barry** teaches a print management system **(See systems featured in Figure 1 and Figure 2; Column 3, lines 14-17)** that allocates **(element 422)** each print demand to one of multiple printing devices **(virtual printers, Column 2,lines 58-60) (See Figure 15)**, which print an image on a medium **(Column 16, lines 34-45)(See: SUMMARY OF INVENTION)**, said print management system comprising:

a print demand acceptance module **(processor) (shown in block diagram of Figure 14)** that receives a print demand **(print job)** including at least one printing request **(Copy) (See Figures 1 and 2; Column 4, lines 33-38, and lines 56-60) (Column 16, lines 4-10)**; and

a print allocation module **(image task manager; See Figure 2)(See Figure 15, elements 422 and 424)** that, when the received print demand includes plural printing requests **(copies)** of a party or wholly identical image **(Column 14, lines 49-56)**, allocates the plural printing requests to one printing device

(Column 5, lines 21-29; Noted: Barry discloses that 4 print jobs, each of 50 copies are sent to the system, the system would parse the jobs sending the first 2 jobs, each of 50 copies, to the first print engine; and the following 2 print jobs, each of 50 copies, to the other print engine in order to balance the load of print jobs)(Column 14, lines 4-7; Column 14, line 48 - Column 15, line 25; and Column 19, lines 43 - Column 20, line 18; Note: Barry discloses a system which can separate a document according to certain attributes of the document, in which Barry uses an example of color versus monochrome printing, and in which these attributes can be separated and directed to particular devices according to the parameters of the printing device and the documents attributes. Barry also explains this process can be done automatically or be user defined to decide how to distribute between the printing devices used).

Regarding **Claim 2, Barry** further discloses each of the printing requests included in the print demand has identification information for identifying an image to be printed **(Column 19, lines 45-49; Column 31, lines 38-56; Column 32, lines 23-27; See Figures 9, 31, and 32; Noted: Barry disclose identification information; even though it is not directly disclosed, this information is assumed to be information such as metadata, or data about data, of a file which is known in the art at the time of the invention to be incorporated with files and print files and print jobs in a print request to be printed)**, and

said print allocation module allocates multiple printing requests for printing at least an image having an identical piece of the information to one printing device **(Column 14, lines 4-7; Column 14, line 48 - Column 15, line 25; and Column 19, lines 43—65; Note: Barry discloses a system which can separate a document according to certain attributes of the document, in which Barry uses an example of color versus monochrome printing, and in which these attributes can be separated and directed to particular devices according to the parameters of the printing device and the documents attributes. Barry also explains this process can be done automatically or be user defined to decide how to distribute between the printing devices used)**.

Regarding **Claim 3, Barry** further discloses the identification information includes at least one of a file name of each image, identification information for identifying a digital camera used to record the image, date of recording the image with the digital camera, and a data size of the image **(Column 16, lines 4-10; and Column 16, line 65 – Column 17, line 6; Noted: Examiner again points to the understanding of "metadata associated with a file, print file, or print job" that is known in the art at the time of the invention; metadata clearly contains and anticipates information to identify a file name and a file data size)**.

Regarding **Claim 4, Barry** further discloses a printing request number detection module that detects a number of printing requests allocated to each of the multiple printing devices **(See Figure 5; and Column 8, line 64- Column 9, line 10)**,

wherein each of the multiple printing devices accepts allocation of printing requests from said print management system to a preset number and successively executes the preset number of printing requests **(Column 8, line 64- Column 9, line 10; and Column 11, line 65 – Column 12, line 14)**, and

said print allocation module allocates a printing request on the condition that any of the detected numbers of printing requests allocated to the multiple printing devices is less than the preset number **(See steps of Figure 5; and Column 8, lines 39-63)**.

Regarding **Claim 5, Barry** further discloses when there are plural printing devices having the number of allocated printing requests less than the preset number, allocates a printing request to the printing device having a less number of allocated printing requests **(Column 8, line 39 – Colum 9, line 10; Column 23, lines 36-50); and See steps of Figure 5)**.

Regarding **Claim 6, Barry** teaches a print management system **(See systems featured in Figure 1 and Figure 2; Column 3, lines 14-17)** that allocates **(element 422)** each print demand to one of multiple printing devices **(virtual printers, Column 2,**

lines 58-60) (See Figure 15), which print an image on a medium **(Column 16, lines 34-45) (See: SUMMARY OF INVENTION)**, said print management system comprising:

a print demand acceptance module **(processor) (shown in block diagram of Figure 14)** that receives a first print demand **(print job)** including at least one printing request **(Copy) (See Figures 1 and 2; Column 4, lines 33-38, and lines 56-60) (Column 16, lines 4-10)**; and

a print allocation module **(See Figure 15, elements 422 and 424)** that, in response to reception of a second print demand including a printing request of a same image as an allocated image of a printing request of the first print demand**(Column 14, lines 49-56; and Figure 12)**, which has already been sent to a given printer of the multiple printing devices, allocates the printing request of the second print demand to the given printer **(Column 14, lines 4-9; Column 14, line 48 – Column 15, line 25; and Column 22, lines 41-57; Barry discloses a system which can separate a document according to certain attributes of the document, in which Barry uses an example of color versus monochrome printing, and in which these attributes can be separated and directed to particular devices according to the parameters of the printing device and the documents attributes. Barry also explains this process can be done automatically or be user defined to decide how to distribute between the printing devices used. In Barry, if two printers were being used, one color for color printing and one for monochrome printing, each separated color and monochrome or other**

distinguished identification attribute would be printed to the device accordingly) (In other words, if the identical image or print demand were sent to the system, the system would analyze the print demand and print in an identical manner to the same printer).

Regarding **Claim 7, Barry** further discloses each of the printing requests included in the print demand has image identification information for identifying an image to be printed **(Column 19, lines 45-49; Column 31, lines 38-56; Column 32, lines 23-27; See Figures 9, 31, and 32; Noted: Barry disclose identification information; even though it is not directly disclosed, this information is assumed to be information such as metadata, or data about data, of a file which is known in the art at the time of the invention to be incorporated with files and print files and print jobs in a print request to be printed)**,

said print management system further comprising: an information storage module **(Column 2, lines 56-57; See "memory" element 414)** that stores the image information for the allocated image and the relevant printing device, to which the printing request for printing the allocated image has already been allocated **(Column 16, line 64 - Column 17, line 6)**,

wherein said print allocation module allocates a printing request for printing an image having an identical piece of the image information with the stored image information for identifying the allocated image to the stored relevant printing device, to which the printing request for printing the allocated image

has already been allocated **(Column 14, lines 4-9; Column 14, line 48 – Column 15, line 25; and Column 22, lines 41-57; Barry discloses a system which can separate a document according to certain attributes of the document, in which Barry uses an example of color versus monochrome printing, and in which these attributes can be separated and directed to particular devices according to the parameters of the printing device and the documents attributes. Barry also explains this process can be done automatically or be user defined to decide how to distribute between the printing devices used. In Barry, if two printers were being used, one color for color printing and one for monochrome printing, each separated color and monochrome or other identification distinguished attribute would be printed to the device accordingly)**.

Regarding **Claim 8, Barry** further discloses the identification information includes at least one of a file name of each image, identification information for identifying a digital camera used to record the image, date of recording the image with the digital camera, and a data size of the image **(Column 16, lines 4-10; and Column 16, line 65 – Column 17, line 6; Noted: Examiner again points to the understanding of "metadata associated with a file, print file, or print job" that is known in the art at the time of the invention; metadata clearly contains and anticipates information to identify a file name and a file data size)**.

Regarding **Claim 9, Barry** further discloses each of the printing requests included in the print demand has customer identification information for identifying a customer who demands printing of an image **(Column 16, lines 4-12; and Column 16, line 64 - Column 17, line 6),**

said information storage module **(Column 2, lines 56-57; See "memory" element 414)** stores the customer identification information with regard to the allocated image **(Column 16, lines 4-12; and Column 16, line 64 - Column 17, line 6)**, and

said print allocation module allocates a printing request for printing an image having an identical piece of the image identification information with the stored image identification information for identifying the allocated image and an identical piece of the customer identification information with the stored customer identification information with regard to the allocated image to the stored relevant printing device, to which the printing request for printing the allocated image has already been allocated**(Column 14, lines 4-9; Column 14, line 48 – Column 15, line 25; and Column 22, lines 41-57; Barry discloses a system which can separate a document according to certain attributes of the document, in which Barry uses an example of color versus monochrome printing, and in which these attributes can be separated and directed to particular devices according to the parameters of the printing device and the documents attributes. Barry also explains this process can be done automatically or be user defined**

to decide how to distribute between the printing devices used. In Barry, if two printers were being used, one color for color printing and one for monochrome printing, each separated color and monochrome or other identification distinguished attribute would be printed to the device accordingly)..

Regarding **Claim 10, Barry** further discloses a printing request number detection module that detects a number of printing requests allocated to each of the multiple printing devices **(See Figure 5; and Column 8, line 64- Column 9, line 10)**,

wherein each of the multiple printing devices accepts allocation of printing requests from said print management system to a preset number and successively executes the preset number of printing requests **(Column 8, line 64- Column 9, line 10; and Column 11, line 65 – Column 12, line 14)**, and

said print allocation module allocates a printing request on the condition that any of the detected numbers of printing requests allocated to the multiple printing devices is less than the preset number **(See steps of Figure 5; and Column 8, lines 39-63)**.

Regarding **Claim 11, Barry** further discloses when there are plural printing devices having the number of allocated printing requests less than the preset number, allocates a printing request to the printing device having a less number of allocated

printing requests **(Column 8, line 39 – Colum 9, line 10; Column 23, lines 36-50); and See steps of Figure 5)**.

Regarding **Claim 12, Barry teaches** a print management system **(See systems featured in Figure 1 and Figure 2; Column 3, lines 14-17)** that allocates **(element 422)** each print demand to one of multiple printing devices **(virtual printers, Column 2, lines 58-60) (See Figure 15)**, which print an image on a medium **(Column 16, lines 34-45) (See: SUMMARY OF INVENTION)**, said print management system comprising:

a print demand acceptance module **(image task manager, See Figure 2)(shown in block diagram of Figure 14)** that receives a print demand **(print job)(Column 16, lines 4-10)** including at least one printing request of an image **(copy)(Column 2, lines 54-56,) (See Figure 1 and 2; Column 4, lines 33-38, and lines 56-60)**, the printing request being provided with settings of a number of pages and number of copies to be printed **(Column 5, lines 21-29; Column 8,lines 30-43; and see Fig 5) (Column 11, line 65 – Column 12, line 14)**; and

a print allocation module **(image task manager)(See Figure 15, elements 422 and 424)** that allocates the received print demand as a whole or in units of pages to one of the multiple printing devices **(Column 2, lines 54-56) (Column 5, lines 21-29; Noted: Barry discloses that 4 print jobs, each of 50 copies are sent to the system, the system would parse the jobs sending the first 2 jobs, each of 50 copies, to the first print engine; and**

the following 2 print jobs, each of 50 copies, to the other print engine in order to balance the load of print jobs)(.

Regarding **Claim 13, Barry** further discloses a printing request number detection module that detects a number of printing requests allocated to each of the multiple printing devices **(See Figure 5; and Column 8, line 64- Column 9, line 10)**,

wherein each of the multiple printing devices accepts allocation of printing requests from said print management system to a preset number and successively executes the preset number of printing requests **(Column 8, line 64- Column 9, line 10; and Column 11, line 65 – Column 12, line 14)**, and

said print allocation module allocates a printing request on the condition that any of the detected numbers of printing requests allocated to the multiple printing devices is less than the preset number **(See steps of Figure 5; and Column 8, lines 39-63)**.

Regarding **Claim 14, Barry** further discloses when there are plural printing devices having the number of allocated printing requests less than the preset number, allocates a printing request to the printing device having a less number of allocated printing requests **(Column 8, line 39 – Colum 9, line 10; Column 23, lines 36-50); and See steps of Figure 5)**.

Regarding **Claim 15, Barry** teaches a print management system **(See systems featured in Figure 1 and Figure 2; Column 3, lines 14-17)** that allocates **(element 422)** each print demand to one of multiple printing devices **(virtual printers, Column 2, lines 58-60) (See Figure 15)**, which print an image on a medium **(Column 16, lines 34-45) (See: SUMMARY OF INVENTION)**, said print management system comprising:

(a) receiving a print demand **(print job)** including at least one printing request **(copy) (See Figures 1 and 2; Column 4, lines 33-38, and lines 56-60) (Column 16, lines 4-10)**; and

(b) when the received print demand includes plural printing requests **(copies)** of partly or wholly identical image **(Column 14, lines 49-56)**, allocating the plural printing requests to one printing device **(Column 5, lines 21-29; Noted: Barry discloses that 4 print jobs, each of 50 copies are sent to the system, the system would parse the jobs sending the first 2 jobs, each of 50 copies, to the first print engine; and the following 2 print jobs, each of 50 copies, to the other print engine in order to balance the load of print jobs)(Column 14, lines 4-7; Column 14, line 48 - Column 15, line 25; and Column 19, lines 43—65; Note: Barry discloses a system which can separate a document according to certain attributes of the document, in which Barry uses an example of color versus monochrome printing, and in which these attributes can be separated and directed to particular devices according to the parameters of the**

printing device and the documents attributes. Barry also explains this process can be done automatically or be user defined to decide how to distribute between the printing devices used).

Regarding **Claim 16, Barry** further discloses each of the printing requests included in the print demand has identification information for identifying an image to be printed **(Column 19, lines 45-49; Column 31, lines 38-56; Column 32, lines 23-27; See Figures 9, 31, and 32; Noted: Barry disclose identification information; even though it is not directly disclosed, this information is assumed to be information such as metadata, or data about data, of a file which is known in the art at the time of the invention to be incorporated with files and print files and print jobs in a print request to be printed)**, and

said step (b) allocates multiple printing requests for printing at least an image having an identical piece of the identification information to one identical printing device **(Column 14, lines 4-7; Column 14, line 48 - Column 15, line 25; and Column 19, lines 43—65; Note: Barry discloses a system which can separate a document according to certain attributes of the document, in which Barry uses an example of color versus monochrome printing, and in which these attributes can be separated and directed to particular devices according to the parameters of the printing device and the documents attributes. Barry also explains this**

process can be done automatically or be user defined to decide how to distribute between the printing devices used).

Regarding **Claim 17, Barry** further discloses (c) detecting a number of printing requests allocated to each of the multiple printing devices **(See Figure 5; and Column 8, line 64- Column 9, and line 10)**,

wherein each of the multiple printing devices accepts allocation of printing requests from said print management system to a preset number and successively executes the preset number of printing requests **(Column 8, line 64- Column 9, line 10; and Column 11, line 65 – Column 12, line 14)**, and

said step (b) allocates a printing request on the condition that any of the detected numbers of printing requests allocated to the multiple printing devices is less than the preset number **(See steps of Figure 5; and Column 8, lines 39-63)**.

Regarding **Claim 18, Barry** teaches a print management system **(See systems featured in Figure 1 and Figure 2; Column 3, lines 14-17)** that allocates **(element 422)** each print demand to one of multiple printing devices **(virtual printers, Column 2, lines 58-60) (See Figure 15)**, which print an image on a medium **(Column 16, lines 34-45) (See: SUMMARY OF INVENTION)**, said print management system comprising:

(a) receiving a print demand **(print job)** including at least one printing request **(Copy) (See Figures 1 and 2; Column 4, lines 33-38, and lines 56-60) (Column 16, lines 4-10)**; and

(b) in response to reception of a second print demand including a printing request of a same image as an allocated image of a first printing request **(Column 14, lines 49-56; and Figure 12)**, which has already been sent to a given printer of the multiple printing devices, allocates the printing request of the second print demand **(Column 14, lines 4-9; Column 14, line 48 – Column 15, line 25; and Column 22, lines 41-57; Barry discloses a system which can separate a document according to certain attributes of the document, in which Barry uses an example of color versus monochrome printing, and in which these attributes can be separated and directed to particular devices according to the parameters of the printing device and the documents attributes. Barry also explains this process can be done automatically or be user defined to decide how to distribute between the printing devices used. In Barry, if two printers were being used, one color for color printing and one for monochrome printing, each separated color and monochrome or other distinguished identification attribute would be printed to the device accordingly). (In other words, if the identical image or print demand were sent to the system, the system would analyze the print demand and print in an identical manner to the same printer)**.

Regarding **Claim 19, Barry** further discloses each of the printing requests included in the print demand has image identification information for identifying an image to be printed **(Column 19, lines 45-49; Column 31, lines 38-56; Column 32, lines 23-27; See Figures 9, 31, and 32; Noted: Barry disclose identification information; even though it is not directly disclosed, this information is assumed to be information such as metadata, or data about data, of a file which is known in the art at the time of the invention to be incorporated with files and print files and print jobs in a print request to be printed)**,

said print management system further comprising the step of: storing the image identification information for identifying the allocated image and the relevant printing device **(Column 2, lines 56-57)**, to which the printing request for printing the allocated image has already been allocated **(Column 16, line 64 - Column 17, line 6)**, into an information storage module **(See "memory" element 414)**,

wherein said step (b) allocates a printing request for printing an image having an identical piece of the image identification information with the stored image identification information for identifying the allocated image to the stored relevant printing device, to which the printing request for printing the allocated image has already been allocated (**Column 14, lines 4-9; Column 14, line 48 – Column 15, line 25; and Column 22, lines 41-57; Barry discloses a system which can separate a document according to certain attributes**

of the document, in which Barry uses an example of color versus monochrome printing, and in which these attributes can be separated and directed to particular devices according to the parameters of the printing device and the documents attributes. Barry also explains this process can be done automatically or be user defined to decide how to distribute between the printing devices used. In Barry, if two printers were being used, one color for color printing and one for monochrome printing, each separated color and monochrome or other identification distinguished attribute would be printed to the device accordingly).

Regarding **Claim 20, Barry** further discloses the step of:

(d) detecting a number of printing requests allocated to each of the multiple printing devices **(See Figure 5; and Column 8, line 64- Column 9, line 10)**, wherein each of the multiple printing devices accepts allocation of printing requests from said print management system to a preset number and successively executes the preset number of printing requests **(Column 8, line 64- Column 9, line 10; and Column 11, line 65 – Column 12, line 14)**, and

said step (b) allocates a printing request on the condition that any of the detected numbers of printing requests allocated to the multiple printing devices is less than the preset number **(See steps of Figure 5; and Column 8, lines 39-63)**.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 07/17/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

2. The applicant's arguments regarding Claims 1, 6, 12, 15 and 18 have been fully considered.

With respect to the applicant's arguments and remarks regarding Claims 1 and 15 that Barry does not include a print allocation module, and does not print identical images by a single printer has been considered.

In reply: Barry clearly explains his invention to print numerous amounts of copies of the same print job on the same printer. Barry teaches this limitation in several examples. Most easily understood when Barry discloses an example in Column 5, lines 23-29. Barry clearly explains that a print job which is desired to be produced in the amount of 50 copies is performed exclusively one the same print engine.

With respect to the applicant's arguments and remarks regarding Claims 6 and 18 that Barry does not necessarily print an identical image using the same printer because the system includes multiple multicolor printers has been considered.

In reply: Barry clearly explains his invention to print identical images to the same printer. For several reasons, one skilled in the art would understand that each copy of a print job can be considered a different print job, which would explain the limitation for the same purposes and reasons as explained above in regards to Claims 1 and 15.

The applicant argues that Barry does not *necessarily* print to the same printer because the system *could* use multiple printer engines. Barry also *could* use one color printer in operation to one monochrome printer, which would necessarily anticipate the applicants' limitation. More importantly, Barry does clearly disclose that the system includes a color virtual printer, and a monochrome virtual printer, which both are in accordance with print engines, the number of print engines is not limited except for one virtual print engine cannot control all of the print engines within the system. Therefore, the system of Barry would analyze a first and second print demand, and in example of the print demands being the same, would analyze the image the same and process the same image to the same printer.

With respect to the applicant's arguments and remarks regarding Claim 12 that Barry does not necessarily print an identical image using the same printer because the system includes multiple multicolor printers has been considered.

In reply: The above replies regarding Claims 1, 6, 15, and 18 clearly explain and cover the argument regarding Claim 12.

Noted: The applicant may not have understood or appreciated the invention of Barry from the previous citations. The examiner has provided further explanations and citations to where Barry anticipates the applicant and gives examples of how the invention of Barry can be used to anticipate the applicant. Therefore, Claims 1, 6, 12, 15 and 18 respectfully stand rejected. Accordingly, for at least the foregoing reasons, independent claims 1, 6, 12, 15 and 18 are rejected over Barry, dependent claims 2-5,

7-11, 13-14, 16-17 and 19-20, each of which depend from independent claims, respectfully stand rejected.

Conclusion

3. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JONATHAN R. BECKLEY whose telephone number is (571)270-3432. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri: 7:30-5:00 EST (Alternate Friday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, TWYLER L. HASKINS can be reached on (571)272-7406. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/King Y. Poon/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/Jonathan R Beckley/
Examiner, Art Unit 2625
/J. R. B./
Examiner, Art Unit 2625
11/13/08